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Date:

**APRIL 12, 2005** 

To:

EXAMINER BONSHOCK, DENNIS G.

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #:

(703) 872-9306

From:

FRANK C. NICHOLAS

Phone #:

(847) 424-2521

Client/Matter No.:

AUS920010923US1 (9000/81)

# of Pages:

8

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							Examiner			BONSHOCK, DENNIS G					
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FRANK C\_NICHOLAS (33.983)

Name of applicant, assigner or registered representative

April 12, 2005

Date of Signature

PATENT Case No. AU\$920010923U\$1 (9000/81)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re pa	atent application of:	)
	ANTHONY E. MARTINEZ, ET AL.	Examiner: BONSHOCK, DENNIS G.
Serial 1	No.: 09/981,877	) ) Group Art Unit: 2173
Filed:	OCTOBER 18, 2001	) )
Title:	METHOD OF PREVIEWING A GRAPHICAL IMAGE CORRESPONDING TO AN ICON IN A CLIPBOARD	) ) )

#### REPLY BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

Appellants respectfully present their Reply Brief as follows:

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The Examiner fails to introduce any new support for his §102(a) rejection in his answer brief. Appellants maintain that the "MSWord" reference is not a §102(a) reference, and that "MSWord" does not disclose each element of the claims.

Claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, "displaying the graphical image associated with the icon in response to the icon preview instruction." Thus, a graphical image associated with the icon is displayed in response to an icon preview instruction. Three elements are present in this section of the claim: 1) an icon preview instruction, 2) an icon, and 3) a graphical image associated with the icon. In order to anticipate the claim, "MSWord" must disclose each element.

An "icon" is a picture on a screen that represents a specific file, directory, window, option, or program, according to an exemplary definition from *The American Heritage* Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition. In contrast, "text" is, according to the same source, "the original words of something written or printed, as opposed to a paraphrase, translation, revision, or condensation."

At most, the "reference" discloses that a *text* sample of the clipboard icon is disclosed upon a mouse action, and not the display of a *graphical* image associated with the icon. See, MS Figure 2. The Examiner's attempt to argue that text and graphics are identical is flawed.

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A box surrounding the graphical image of text is not associative of an icon, in contrast to the Examiner's arguments. See, p.6 of the Examiner's answer. A box is not associative of a "W."

Regardless of the merits of Appellants argument above, however, there can be no proper rejection of the claims based on "MSWord." While the Examiner correctly identifies the strictures of §102(a), the Examiner's statement that a copyright date "alone proves that the MSWord reference was known and used prior to the filing of the applicants claimed invention" illustrates a fundamental misconception of patent law.

The law is clear that a document only qualifies as a reference under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) "upon a satisfactory showing that such document has been disseminated or otherwise made available to the extent that person interested and ordinarily skilled in the subject matter or art, exercising reasonable diligence, can locate it." See MPEP 2128, In re Wyer, 655 F.2d 221 (CCPA 1981).

In contrast, 17 U.S.C. §102 states that "copyright protection subsists, in accordance with this title, in original works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, now known or later developed, from which they can be perceived, reproduced, or otherwise communicated, either directly or with the aid of a machine or device." Thus, the fact that a document claims copyright *does not mean* that the document has been disseminated or otherwise made available. Furthermore, that a document claims copyright to a date more than one year prior to the instant filing date does not mean that a particular portion of the document was included in the copyrighted work at the time that the copyright notice was affixed. For example, the Examiner indicates that the copyright notice claims copyright

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"1983-1999" but does not allege that the document was the same document during that time period, and does not allege that after 1999, the document ("MSWord") is the same document that was subject to a copyright claim in 1999.

The "MSWord" reference was generated by the Examiner more than 2.5 years after the instant filing, and this reference cannot support this rejection.

Allowance of claim 1, and all claims depending therefrom is requested.

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### **CONCLUSION**

The Appellants respectfully submit that claims 1-16 fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested.

Dated: April 12, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
ANTHONY E. MARTINEZ, et al.

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